GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4352
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2003
VISIT OF TOURISTS TO CHINA
KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian tourists visited China during 2001 and 2002 vis a vis Chinese who visited India during 2002;

(b) the steps taken to persuade Indian Tour Operators to exploit tourism potential of China; and

(c) other steps proposed to explore the tourism potential of both countries?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a): As per the latest report published by the World Tourism Organisation, 159361 Indians visited China and 13901 Chinese visited India in the year 2001. Information for the year 2002 is not available.

(b) and (c): A special initiative has been taken to obtain 'Approved Destination Status' from China which will enhance inflow of tourists from China. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Tourism Cooperation with Peoples' Republic of China has been signed. An air service between China and India has already started.